

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A shutter comprising:

5 a face panel made from a synthetic polymer, said face panel including a first vertical end portion and a second vertical end portion;

10 a first rear vertical support and a second rear vertical support attached to said face panel, said rear vertical supports being spaced apart and extending along the length of said face panel, said first rear vertical support being positioned adjacent to said first vertical end portion and said second rear vertical support being positioned adjacent to said second vertical end portion; and

15 at least one rear horizontal support attached to said face panel, said rear horizontal support extending in between said pair of rear vertical supports; and

20 a first channel member and a second channel member, each of said channel members having a u-shaped cross-section and being made from a metal, said first channel member being placed over said first vertical end portion and said first rear vertical support and said second channel member being placed over said second vertical end portion and said second rear vertical support.

2. A shutter as defined in claim 1, wherein said face panel is made from an expanded foam polyvinyl chloride.

3. A shutter as defined in claim 2, wherein said first and second rear vertical supports and said at least one rear horizontal support are made from an expanded foam polyvinyl chloride.

4. A shutter as defined in claim 1, wherein said first and said 5 second rear vertical supports are attached to said face panel using an adhesive.

5. A shutter as defined in claim 1, wherein each of said vertical end portions and said rear vertical supports include indentations, and wherein said channel members define raised elements that reside in 10 said indentations.

6. A shutter as defined in claim 1, wherein said face panel is coated with a lacquer coating.

7. A shutter as defined in claim 1, wherein said shutter includes at least two rear horizontal supports.

15 8. A shutter as defined in claim 1, wherein said first and said second channel members are made from aluminum.

9. A shutter as defined in claim 1, wherein said face panel includes routed out decorative areas.

10. A shutter as defined in claim 1, further comprising a 20 polymer film positioned in between said face panel and said first and said second rear vertical supports and between said face panel and said at least one horizontal support.

11. A shutter comprising:

a face panel made from a synthetic material, said face panel including a first vertical end portion and a second vertical end portion;

5 a back panel comprising first and second rear vertical supports attached to said face panel, said rear vertical supports being spaced apart and extending along the length of said face panel, said first rear vertical support being positioned adjacent to said first vertical end portion and said second rear vertical support being positioned adjacent to said second vertical end portion, said first and second rear vertical supports being made from a synthetic material; and

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a first channel member and a second channel member, each of said channel members having a u-shaped cross-section, said first channel member being placed over said first vertical end portion and said first rear vertical support, said second channel member being placed over said second vertical end portion and said second rear vertical support.

12. A shutter as defined in claim 11, wherein said first and said second channel members are made from aluminum.

20 13. A shutter as defined in claim 11, wherein said face panel
and said back panel are made from a material comprising an expanded
foam polyvinyl chloride.

14. A shutter as defined in claim 11, wherein each of said vertical end portions and said rear vertical supports include indentations and wherein said channel members define raised elements that reside in said indentations.

5 15. A shutter as defined in claim 14, wherein said first and said second channel members extend the entire length of said face panel.

16. A shutter as defined in claim 15, wherein said indentations located on said vertical end portions and said rear vertical supports comprise vertical slots that extend the length of said shutter, and wherein

10 10 said raised elements defined by said channel members also extend the length of said shutter.

17. A shutter comprising:

15 a face panel made from an expanded foam polyvinyl chloride, said face panel including a first vertical end portion and a second vertical end portion;

20 a rear support section attached to said face panel, said rear support section including a first rear vertical support and a second rear vertical support, said first and second rear vertical supports being made from an expanded foam polyvinyl chloride, said first rear vertical support being positioned adjacent to said first vertical end portion and said second rear vertical support being positioned adjacent to said second vertical end portion; and

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a first channel member and a second channel member, each of said channel members having a u-shaped cross-section and being made from a metal, said first channel member being placed over said first vertical end portion and said first rear vertical support, said second channel member being placed over said second vertical end portion and said second rear vertical support, and wherein each of said vertical end portions and said rear vertical supports include an indentation and wherein said channel members define raised elements that reside in said indentations.

18. A shutter as defined in claim 17, wherein said back support section further includes at least one horizontal support extending in between said pair of rear vertical supports.

19. A shutter as defined in claim 17, wherein said first and said second channel members are made from aluminum.

20. A shutter as defined in claim 17, wherein said indentations located on said vertical end portions and said rear vertical supports comprise vertical slots that extend the length of said shutter, and wherein said raised elements defined by said channel members also extend the length of said shutter.